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Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation
Second session
Geneva, 1–3 July 2014
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1
Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. The expert meeting will have three days, from 1 to 3 July 2014, to complete its work. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached as an annex to this document. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/4 Provisional agenda and annotations

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Item 3
Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements

3. At its fifty-sixth executive session, the Trade and Development Board approved the terms of reference for a multi-year expert meeting on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation (TD/B/EX(56)/2/Add.1). In accordance with the terms of reference, the second session of the meeting focuses on trade facilitation.

4. The Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation will address some emerging and persistent issues that developing countries are facing and which need to be dealt with as a matter of priority. In accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the Doha Mandate, the expert meeting will address trade logistics issues in developing countries, including those with special needs, namely the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition. Drawing from the Organization's three pillars of work, discussions will consider all relevant aspects, namely technical assistance and capacity-building, research and analytical work, and consensus-building.

5. The increasing number of regional trade facilitation agreements may pose additional challenges to trade facilitation, but may also promote reform and a further global harmonization of rules. Trade facilitation is receiving increasing attention and investment at the national, regional and multilateral levels; experts will discuss and analyse trade facilitation implementation plans, ways to mainstream trade facilitation in the development strategies of LDCs and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and its impact on the trade and balance of trade of some countries.

6. The UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note to assist participants in the deliberations at the session (TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/5). In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/5	Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements

Item 4
Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its seventh session in 2015. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Annex

Provisional schedule of the meeting

Tuesday *1 July 2014*	*Wednesday* *2 July 2014*	*Thursday* *3 July 2014*
(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)	**(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)**	**(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)**
Plenary	**Informals**	**Informals**
Opening statement **Item 1** Election of officers **Item 2** Adoption of the agenda and organization of work **Introduction of item 3** Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements **Informals** **Item 3** Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements	**Item 3** *(continued)* Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements	**Item 3** *(continued)* Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements
(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)	**(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)**	**(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)**
Informals	**Informals**	**Informals**
Item 3 *(continued)* Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements	**Item 3** *(continued)* Trade facilitation rules as a trade enabler: Options and requirements	Consideration of the outcome of the meeting Plenary (closing) **Item 4** Adoption of the report of the meeting